



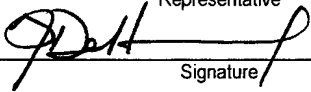
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

AF/  
3726  
EPW

Application No.: 09/803,560  
Applicant(s): Akira TSUBOUCHI, Kiyoshi OKUBO and  
Yasushi WATANABE  
For: METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING A HOLLOW RACK  
SHAFT  
Confirmation No.: 7306  
Customer No.: 24731  
Docket No.: 18733/00040  
Filed: March 9, 2001  
Group Art Unit: 3726  
Examiner: Marc Quemuel Jimenez

**MAIL STOP AF**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: <b>MAIL STOP AF</b> , Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on	
September 2, 2004	Date of Deposit
Michael J. DeHaemer	Name of Applicant, Assignee, or Registered Representative
	Signature
September 2, 2004	Date of Signature

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116**

This Amendment is filed in response to the Office Action dated June 4, 2004, which provides for a response period ending September 4, 2004.

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 3 of this paper.